

My mind goes back, as I think about our friendship, to the early days when we both came to the Senate. On one snowy day in which there were 24 inches of snow on the ground, the scheduled speaker for the reading of George Washington's Farewell Address was Senator JOHN WARNER of Virginia. In order to be here, he had to walk some 2 miles in the snow to get here. I was the Presiding Officer of the Senate on that occasion. I got a ride in a jeep and came about a mile. But Senator WARNER walked all of that way.

Since that time I have been following in his footsteps. He has trod through many minefields, and he has always come out with a great sense of feeling for his fellow man and for his State of Virginia.

So I appreciate very deeply his remarks. I know that he is going to have a long career here in the Senate. I hope that when he does leave, there will be another Senator who will speak words pertaining to agriculture concerning him because he has been a true champion of agriculture and a true champion of Virginia peanut farmers, too.

So I deeply appreciate everything that he said, and I will look forward to many days in the future of having some sort of way of having a connection with him.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, if I may slightly revise and correct the record of my good friend, the distance was 4 miles. But, more importantly, the last one-tenth of a mile I was on the back of a tractor. You may recall that the farmers of America had assembled between the Capitol and the Washington Monument and were encamped in that snow with their tractors here on a protest. As I came along Pennsylvania Avenue, one spied me, not knowing I was a Senator but in the true spirit of an American farmer just extended a hand to help, and he put me on the back of the tractor and drove me up the Hill. I arrived in front of the Capitol of the United States on the back of a farm tractor to walk into a Chamber, Mr. President, that was totally empty. No one came from afar except my dear friend from Alabama to hear me deliver George Washington's Farewell Address.

I thank the distinguished Senator for commenting on my career, which I fervently hope is not a farewell address.

I yield the floor, Mr. President. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR NANCY KASSEBAUM

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, for many years I was privileged to sit in

the back row of this side of the Senate next to the distinguished Senator from Kansas, NANCY KASSEBAUM. That was a privilege for this Senator because, as one knows, you often have the opportunity in the course of debate and other times in the Senate to engage in conversation with your colleague that adjoins you. Senator LUGAR was there.

I shall most dearly miss her departure from the Senate. We came to the Senate together. She virtually decided to reclaim her life from public service after a long and distinguished period in the Senate and other responsibilities. I have to recount with some reluctance a story about my first encounter with the distinguished then junior Senator from Kansas. I had been in the Senate only a year or so, and she approached me one day and asked if I would travel to Kansas to give a speech to a local university or college, as the case may be. Memory dims, but memory does not dim on the events of that visit because I was looking forward to meeting her distinguished father, Alfred M. Landon, who was the nominee of the Republican Party for the Presidency of the United States in 1936.

So I had done my homework about her father and very much looked forward to meeting that historic figure. We arrived. I do not recall much about the speech, but we were invited to have lunch with her father.

Now, I have to add that at that time I had a very unusual and beautiful wife, and upon arriving at the KASSEBAUM-Alfred M. Landon household, it quickly became evident to me that I was not invited to come to Kansas to give a speech; it was immaterial whether I was to come or not. What Alfred M. Landon wanted was to meet my wife. That was his sole ambition, sole reason that Senator KASSEBAUM invited me out there.

We stepped on to the front porch of that wonderful, old, quaint house, very unpretentious. The candidate, the Presidential candidate, came out, greeted us and then he took command of the situation. He pointed his finger at me, and he said, "You sit there on the front porch," and pointed his finger at his daughter and said, "You sit there and entertain the Senator. I'm going inside and I'm going to visit with a really historic figure, his wife."

The two of them disappeared. So Nancy and I engaged in some idle conversation, and pretty soon we heard the level of laughter rising steadily to where it was a roar. The noise was rolling out the door of the house, and Nancy said to me, "Something unusual must be taking place." And she walked in to find that—I hesitate to tell the story but it is a true fact—Alf Landon had secreted, shall we say, a bottle that contained certain vapors, certain elixir of life, which he was precluded from enjoying but he secreted for this occasion, and both had taken liberally and were enjoying the benefits of a very excited conversation.

I shall always remember that day. I hardly got a word into the conversa-

tion and went back home thinking that perhaps I was not a very important U.S. Senator. But I remember that warm greeting of her father and how well she handled it, and we have been close friends all these many years in the Senate.

I was proud to join other Senators when she broke the logjam and put through historic legislation time and time again relating to matters within the purview of her expertise, particularly the health legislation.

What a gentle person; what a thoughtful person; what a sensitive person. I do not think I ever saw her without a smile on her face. Maybe once, but that was her hallmark, civility—civility that she felt so important for this Chamber and for personal relationships. Yes, a very distinguished legislative career, set of accomplishments, of which her father would have been very proud had he lived to see this, her last day as a U.S. Senator.

We say a fond goodbye to our colleague and wish her well in the next chapter of challenges of life, and hopefully she will, like others, reclaim a little bit of that personal life to share with others of her family, to pursue some joys she has earned through her contributions to our country and to the great State of Kansas.

Mr. President, I yield the floor. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The absence of a quorum has been noted. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT REQUEST— S. 2187

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. 2187, which was introduced earlier today by Senator BROWN.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, there also is an Ashcroft amendment that would have been in order on this bill if there had not been objection.

Mr. President, I now ask unanimous consent the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. 2187 regarding the Civil Rights Commission, that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration, the bill be advanced to third reading and passed, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.